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From: Maier, Brent
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 5:31:02 PM
Subject: U.S. EPA - EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in Farmington, NM
 and Statement on Colorado data from Gold King Mine Release

Dear Colleagues:

The following media advisory and news release has been issued by the EPA
 Headquarters press office. For additional information on the response to the Gold King
 Mine release www.epa.gov/goldkingmine

Please note that there is a daily conference call scheduled for **1:00pm – 1:30pm PT (4:00pm – 4:30pm ET)** coordinated by EPA Region 8 to update Congressional staff, elected officials and other state and local representatives on EPA activities in follow up to the Gold King Mine Release. Please call in for the latest information.

Call-In Number: 866-299-9141

Conference Code: 85790886#

Regards,

Brent Maier

Congressional Liaison
Telephone: 415.947.4256

Please note: Some of you may have already received the following information, but am including again for those who may not have.

CONTACT:

press@epa.gov

(970) 812-3351

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 12, 2015

11:20 AM MDT THURSDAY: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in Farmington, NM

FARMINGTON, NM - EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy will visit Farmington, NM on Thursday to inspect response efforts relating to the release of waste water from Gold King mine, and meet with state, local and tribal officials and community members. McCarthy will hold a media availability in Farmington for

credentialed news media only about the response.

WHEN: 11:20 AM MTN

WHO: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy

WHAT: Administrator McCarthy media availability on the unified response to the Gold King Mine incident.

WHERE: Animas River Hike and Bike Trail
(Access between Marriott Courtyard and Red Lion Hotel)
600 Scott Avenue
Farmington, NM 87401

NOTE: The media availability in Farmington will take the place of today's media conference call.

CONTACT:

press@epa.gov
(970) 812-3351

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 12, 2015

NOTE: We are re-sending this news release in case some of you didn't receive it when we originally sent it late Wednesday night.

EPA Statement on Colorado data from Gold King Mine Release

DURANGO, CO – To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado, water quality samples were collected at numerous intervals beginning on Aug. 5, 2015. Samples were taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury.

Analysis now shows that water quality for the Animas River from the Silverton, Colo. area to the Durango municipal water intake has returned to pre-event water quality levels. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 5 to Aug. 9, 2015.

EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in Colorado to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. EPA plans to continue to monitor, analyze and share data for downstream river segments as it becomes available.

To view the surface water summary table:

http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-08/q_surfacewatersummarytable_08-12-15_0900.xlsx

For additional information on the response to the Gold King Mine release www.epa.gov/goldkingmine

Brent Maier

Congressional Liaison

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